

CLAIMS OF THE INVENTION

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- 3 1. A method for generating a consistency point comprising the steps of:
- 4 marking a plurality of inodes pointing to a plurality of modified blocks
- 5 in a file system as being in a consistency point;
- 6 flushing regular files to storage means;
- 7 flushing special files to said storage means.;
- 8 flushing at least one block of file system information to said storage
- 9 means; and,
- 10 requeueing any dirty inodes that were not part of said consistency
- 11 point.
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- 13 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of flushing said special files
- 14 to said storage means further comprises the steps of:
- 15 pre-flushing an inode for a blockmap file to an inode file;
- 16 allocating space on said storage means for all dirty blocks in said
- 17 inode and said blockmap files;
- 18 flushing said inode for said blockmap file again;
- 19 updating a plurality of entries in said blockmap file wherein each en-
- 20 try of said plurality of entries represents a block on said storage means;
- 21 and,
- 22 writing all dirty blocks in said blockmap file and said inode file to said
- 23 storage means.